

LEHMAN COLLEGE
The City University of New York
Minutes of the Stated Meeting of the General Faculty
Wednesday, May 9th 2012

CALL TO ORDER: Professor Manfred Philipp, Chair of the Executive Committee of the Faculty, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the meeting of February 15th, 2012 were submitted and approved.

2. Remarks from the General Faculty Executive Committee. The new members are as follows: Professor Robert Feinerman, Chair of the Executive Committee, Professor Alicia Georges, Professor Deborah Sanders, Professor Duane Tananbaum, Professor Helene Silverman, Professor James Jervis and Professor Mine Doyran. The former secretary, Professor Juan de la Cruz, was thanked for his excellent service.

3. Agenda for Meeting. The agenda for the meeting was submitted and approved.

4. Remarks from the new Chair of the Executive Committee, Professor Robert Feinerman. He thanked Professor Manfred Philipp and Professor Juan de la Cruz again for their excellent service to the university, and introduced the President.

A. President's Report, including a report on Lehman Connect by Ron Bergman, Vice President for Technology and Chief Information Officer. (1) The President welcomed the new members of the Executive Committee and thanked Professor Manfred Philipp and Professor Juan de la Cruz for their excellent service to Lehman College. (2) He also reported attending the luncheon recognizing Lehman faculty for their scholarship and teaching. It was a very uplifting event, and at the core of what Lehman is as a college. He congratulated faculty members for their excellent service to the college. (3)

The President also reported that this agenda has a great deal of information about the budget and enrollment. Vice President Ron Bergman will talk a bit later about Lehman Connect which will make life easier for all faculty and staff. Lehman looks forward to extending this service to our students next year. The most important component about this new portal is that information will be shielded from the outside. (4) The President further reported that the City Council is now considering the mayor's budget proposal which came out last week. They will vote on that by the end of this month. Lehman has a number of petitions for funding to support our capital initiatives. There are three projects, and at least two of them, the President believes will be funded. (5) Yesterday, the St. George's Society, which supports Lehman College students with scholarships, held their annual event. Lehman students were brilliant, they wowed the audience. In conclusion, the President was proud to report that one of our students has been selected as the Mountbatten Scholar; this award includes \$40,000 and an internship in London.

Report of Vice President Ron Bergman on Lehman Connect (1) Ron Bergman called upon David Stevens, who worked with Joseph Middleton on Lehman Connect, to join him at the podium for his report. The team, he reported, has done a great job with Lehman Connect. (2) He demonstrated how to enter Lehman Connect on the college homepage. He said when you log in, you use your Lehman credentials. Lehman Connect is a faculty and staff portal. This is an intranet which will add value. A middle section has faculty and staff announcements. (3) On the left hand side are links for faculty and staff information, including human resources and provost forms. (4) Going back on the left side is also institutional research data. (5) On the right side are Lehman and CUNY events information. (6) The most useful, he reported, is My Lehman Connect, which includes My Content, and gives you web based storage for your documents, both shared and personal. It has the same functionality as Drop Box. (7) This portal also reduces sign-on, in many cases, to a single point of origin; including webmail. (8) There is also a place to report on scholarship and service to the college. (9) There is also a team site which enables faculty members or staff to work together collaboratively, including sharing agendas and calendar items. (10) The dashboard shows enrollment information, and graduation information which comes from CUNY First and SIMS. (11) There is also

a video tour and user guides which will help faculty and staff become proficient in Lehman Connect. (12) Lehman Connect will launch for students next year.

A short discussion followed.

B. Report of Interim Provost Joseph Rachlin (1) Interim Provost Rachlin congratulated Professor Robert Feinerman on being elected as Chair of the Executive Committee. (2) He also reported that for faculty interested in doing research involving The Office of Grants and Contracts, please note that as of this month, everyone who submits a grant application must also submit a certificate that you have taken and passed the module that CUNY has set up regarding responsible research. He urged faculty to please go to the site, get the certificate, have the certificate brought over to the Office of Grant and Contracts so that it is on file. (3) Finally, he asked everyone to please attend commencement. It is important for the students and for the college.

A lengthy discussion followed.

C. Budget Report by Vice President Vincent W. Clark (1) Vice President Clark presented the Third Quarter Financial Report for Lehman College. He reported that we are now at the end of the fiscal year, and that the restrictions and cut-backs from the fall, are now over. He reported that we are going into next year without the sizable cuts of FY2011. (2) Fiscal year 2011, he reported our target revenue was 50 million, with hopes of 54 million, but the impact of tuition increase was not reflected in our revenue targets for FY2011. This year our projected target is 56 million, and we're projecting to exceed it, by about 1.6 million dollars. (3) In FY2011, we had to address 4 million in deficits and over expenditures. (4) Expenditures in every category have gone down. He reported that we reduced our expenditures by about 2 million dollars. We'll be able to start fresh. (5) Our enrollment is down by -1.7%. We would rather that it was a plus. (6) Even with the reductions, we did not stop hiring faculty. New faculty will be hired next year. (7) Lehman received money to hire engineers, custodial supervisors and others similar to support the construction of the new science building.

A short discussion followed.

D. Lehman Senate Report by Professor Duane Tananbaum (1) Professor Tananbaum reported that it's been a busy year for the Lehman College Senate. It has been active dealing with many issues; recommending candidates for graduation, the budget committee has been meeting with Vice President Vincent Clark. (2) However, the most important thing for the Senate and its committees is the Pathways Initiative and trying to minimize the impact on our curriculum. This will be difficult, he said, because our General Education curriculum has always been discipline based, and Pathways is learning outcome based. (3) He continued by saying, we had seven categories, now there are now five "buckets" of learning outcomes. In terms of the rigor of our curriculum, we are quite concerned that Pathways will dumb down general education. Perhaps it's an effort to boost graduation rates, but not by making our students smarter. For example, English composition will drop down to three credits with three contact hours, instead of four. We're trying to preserve foreign language. Foreign Languages is, as far as CUNY is concerned, no longer essential; it might be lumped into a bucket called World Cultures. He has been working with Professor Barbara Jacobson and Professor Robert Whittaker trying to preserve as much as they can from our General Education curriculum. (4) He reported they will have senate at large elections next spring.

A short discussion followed.

E. UFS and PSC Reports by Manfred Philip. (1) Last Wednesday Vice Chancellor Logue presented the CUNY Academy's **Feliks Gross Awards** to Esther Allen of the Baruch College Department of Modern Languages & Comparative Literature, Mandë Holford of the Hunter College Chemistry Department, **Mine Aysen Doyran of the Lehman College Department of Economics and Business**, and Zachary Shirkey of the Hunter College Political Science Department. As President of the CUNY Academy. (2) The **UFS Senate Digest** now has an expanded on-line version, which gives more material

than that given in the print version that still is sent to all faculty members. See <http://cunyufs.org/SD/spring%202012%20hybrid.pdf>. **(3) Faculty resolutions against the Pathways project continue.** The latest is from Bronx Community College. Departmental resolutions also continue to arrive at the UFS office. The latest is from the English Department at John Jay College. While only one community college faculty governance body opposed Pathways before its implementation, ***now all of them do***. The **Petition Drive against Pathways conducted by the PSC has ended** with 5,673 signers. The goal was 5,000. **A majority of all CUNY Distinguished Professors signed:** 77 signed, 59 did not sign. **A majority of all CUNY department chairs signed:** 205 signed, 167 did not sign. The Chancellery sent out an expensive, first-class full-color brochure quoting *three* Distinguished Professors in favor of Pathways. **(4)** Queens College President Muyskens reported at the Council of Presidents that CUNY is endeavoring to redirect **PSC-CUNY awards to younger faculty and to the sciences**. **(5)**The **CUNY Fundraising Assessment** has concluded that CUNY ought to raise \$3 billion by 2015. The goal for all of the colleges is \$2.7 billion. **(6)** The University hired a consultant to examine its **Space Standards**, which were set in 1972. The **Space Standards Initiative** will aim to reset these standards. **(7)** For the first time in memory, **the UFS chair, who is a CUNY Trustee herself, walked out of a Board of Trustees meeting** on Monday in order to protest the anti-faculty statements made by a member of the Board. A group of faculty led by the PSC also walked out of the spectators' section. **(8)** The CUNY and SUNY chancellors and CUNY Vice Chancellor Eduardo Martí will take part in the governor's "***Education Reform Commission***" led by Richard Parsons, former chair of Citigroup and Time Warner and a professional banker. The Executive Order creating the Commission to aims to "*ensure New York is implementing one of the strongest [teacher] evaluation systems in the country.*" It also states that "*New York's education system is organized into 700 school districts, more than half of which educate fewer than 2,000 students. Each of the 700 school districts has its own administration and back office functions, creating duplication, waste, and inefficiencies in the way school districts deliver education.*" The governor has been criticized for not including any teachers on the Commission.

Vice Chancellor Allan Dobrin and CUNY CIO Brian Cohen spoke at the April 17 University Faculty Senate Plenary. CIO Cohen spoke about the Blackboard upgrade (see www.cuny.edu/blackboard) and spoke about BB Collaborate. E-portfolio products were discussed as were the problems created when the SPSS license lapsed. There is now a contract in place for several years. **(2)** CUNYfirst security was discussed, as was the need to train adjuncts in CUNYfirst; The CIO reported that the New York State Controller's office had **objected to retirees continuing to have access to CUNY email resources.** **(3)** The debate about the proposed revision in the CUNY Computer policies continues. Some faculty have asked that CUNY adopt the SUNY language **allowing introduction of malicious programs into the network** or server (e.g., viruses, worms, Trojan horses, e-mail bombs, etc.), **when this activity is a part of the user's normal job/duty** and occurs within a research lab as part of an authorized procedure within that lab. (http://www.cs.sunysb.edu/files/policies/Acceptable_Use_Policy.pdf) As an example, this would be done as part of instruction into the defense against malicious programs. **(4)** The discussion about the **revised sexual harassment policy** continues. The UFS continues to submit suggested modifications. The **CUNY Diversity Action Plan** was issued around April 15. Planning continues for the **move of the CUNY Central Office to the Pfizer Building** on 42nd Street.

Calendar Items:

- The UFS Transfer and Articulation Committee met on May 4, 9 AM, at John Jay College.
- The UFS Executive Committee met on May 8, at The CUNY Central Office.
- The CUNY-BA Governance Committee met today at 2 PM, at the Graduate Center.
- The PSC Delegate Assembly meets tomorrow evening at 6:30 at the PSC Headquarters.
- The UFS Screening of the Film for the Conference on Higher Education in the Prisons, May 11.
- UFS Plenary with Vice Chancellor Schaffer on the Computer Use Policy, 6:30 PM, May 15, Graduate Center. *This Plenary includes elections for UFS officers, including the Chair, and members of the UFS Executive Committee.*

- Faculty Advisory Council for the Research Foundation with Vice Chancellor Small, 10 AM, May 18 at the RF.
- UFS Executive Committee, 9:30 AM, May 22, CUNY Central Office SPS Governing Council, 3 PM, May 24, Graduate Center.
- The PSC Chapter Chairs meet at 6:30 on May 24 at the PSC Headquarters.
- UFS Budget Advisory Committee, with VC's Sapienza and Shaw, May 25th at 41st. Street.
- Board of Trustees Committees, 4 PM, June 4, CUNY.
- Central Office Board of Trustees Public Hearing, 4 PM, June 18.
- Board of Trustees Meeting, 4:30 PM, June 25.
- Baruch College Board of Trustees Committees, 4 PM, September 3, CUNY Central Office.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Professor Lillian Ann Slugocki
English Dept.